

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-10 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 EB-11 FCC-03

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FM USDEL TORREMOLINOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 23

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USMISSION GENEVA

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TAGS: ETEL, ITU

SUBJECT: ITU PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE, TORREMOLINOS,
SEPTEMBER 14 - OCTOBER 26, 1973, SITREP 9.

REF: A. TORREMOLINOS 12; B. TORREMOLINOS 13

1. CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE WORKING GROUP MET
SEPTEMBER 25, EXAMINED ADDITIONAL CREDENTIALS AND
APPROVED DRAFT REPORT FOR SUBMISSION TO FULL COMMITTEE
WHICH MEETS SEPTEMBER 27.

2. ROMANIANS HAVE CIRCULATED DOCUMENT STATING,
INTER ALIA, THAT ROK CLAIM TO SPEAK ON BEHALF OF WHOLE OF
KOREA

IN ITU WITHOUT FOUNDATION "SINCE SEOUL REGIME DOES
NOT REPRESENT AND CANNOT REPRESENT KOREAN PEOPLE"; THAT
SAIGON ADMINISTRATION CANNOT "UNILATERALLY REPRESENT
SOUTH VIETNAM"; AND THAT SIHANOUK GROUP "SOLE LEGAL
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REPRESENTATIVE OF CAMBODIA."

3. COMMUNIST COUNTRIES (MINUS PRC AND ALBANIA) HAVE CIRCULATED DOCUMENT STATING "SAIGON ADMINISTRATION CANNOT BE CONSIDERED TO BE REPRESENTING WHOLE OF SOUTH VIETNAM" SINCE THERE ARE TWO ZONES AND TWO ADMINISTRATIONS IN SOUTH VIETNAM, PRG AND "SAIGON ADMINISTRATION". DOCUMENT ALSO STATES SOUTH KOREAN AUTHORITIES DO NOT REPRESENT WHOLE OF KOREA "AND CANNOT BE CONSIDERED TO BE THE REPRESENTATIVES OF KOREA".

4. SECRETARY OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE (STEAD) INFORMS US THAT KHMER AND SOUTH VIETNAMESE DELS HAVE ALREADY SUBMITTED COUNTER-STATEMENTS. WE HAVE CONSULTED WITH ROK DEL WHICH PLANS TO DO SAME. STEAD BELIEVES BEST MEANS OF HANDLING MATTER (WHICH HE TERMS "LETTING OFF STEAM") IS FOR CHAIRMAN TO PROPOSE THAT ALL SUCH STATEMENTS BE MADE APPENDIXES TO CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT, IT BEING MADE CLEAR THAT THIS IS AT REQUEST OF DELS CONCERNED AND STATEMENTS DO NOT REPEAT NOT REFLECT VIEW OF COMMITTEE. STEAD IS SURE CHAIRMAN WILL FOLLOW HIS ADVICE.

5. COMMENT: LANGUAGE OF ABOVE TEXTS BEARS GENERAL RESEMBLANCE TO STATEMENTS MADE BY SAME DELS AT MONTREUX AND WOULD APPEAR TO BE PRIMARILY FOR THE RECORD. WE HAVE NO REPEAT NO HARD EVIDENCE AT PRESENT TO SUGGEST THAT THERE WILL BE SERIOUS CREDENTIALS PROBLEMS AT CONFERENCE FOR KHMER REPUBLIC, ROK OR SOUTH VIETNAM.

6. COMMITTEE 8 CONTINUED DEBATE ON QUESTION OF DELETION OF REFERENCE TO "GROUPS OF TERRITORIES" FROM ARTICLE 1 OF ITU DRAFT CONSTITUTION. UK PROPOSED TO PUT GENERAL QUESTION OF PRINCIPLE WHETHER COMMITTEE INTENDED TO PRECLUDE AREAS AND PEOPLE REPRESENTED BY TERRITORIES FROM PARTICIPATION IN UNION. ARGENTINA INSISTED ITS PROPOSAL TO DELETE REFERENCE TO COLONIALIST TERM "GROUP OF TERRITORIES" BE TAKEN UP FIRST. AFTER LENGTHY DEBATE ON PROCEDURE CHAIRMAN CALLED VOTE ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ARGENTINE PROPOSAL FIRST. UK REQUESTED SECRET BALLOT FRANCE, US, NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM AND ITALY SUPPORTED SECRET VOTE. RESULTING VOTE ON DELETION OF TERM "GROUP OF TERRITORIES" FROM PARA 5, ARTICLE 1 WAS 58 IN FAVOR, 41(US) AGAINST, AND 12 ABSTENTIONS WITH 33 ABSENT. VOTE WAS CLOSER THAN EXPECTED BUT IS FIRST CLEAR EVIDENCE OF LARGE DEVELOPING COUNTRY BLOCS HERE SUPPORTING POORLY ARGUED AND ILL REASONED PROPOSALS.

7. FRANCE, UK, US AND OTHERS INCLUDING JAMAICA AND MALAWI, URGED THAT MEMBERS NOT DENY TERRITORIES RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE; NOTED FINANCIAL CONSEQUENCES; LOSS OF AREAS REPRESENTATION IN UNION CONTRARY TO WORLD-WIDE COOPERATION IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS; POINTED OUT INCONSISTENCY OF EXCLUSIONARY ACTIONS WITH STATED GOALS OF BROAD MEMBERSHIP; BUT AFRICANS URGED ON BY GUINEA AND ZAIRE PARTICULARLY, AND LA'S URGED ON REPEATEDLY BY ARGENTINA AND PERU ALL BUT TOOK UP CHANTING ANTI-COLONIALIST SLOGANS.

8. QUESTION REMAINS WHETHER VOTE MEANS ONLY WORDS GO FROM ARTICLE 1 AND MEMBERSHIP LIST CAN REMAIN INTACT IN ANNEX TO REGULATIONS OR IF NEXT STEPS OF ARGENTINA, ZAIRE AND OTHERS WILL BUILD ON THIS VOTE TO INSIST ON TOTAL DELETION OF ALL REFERENCE TO TERRITORIES. FURTHER DEBATE ON ARTICLE 1 DUE SEPTEMBER 26 IN PM SESSION. NEXT ATTACK INDICATED IS FOR DELETION OF ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP. LESS SUPPORT FOR DELETION EXPECTED ON THIS ISSUE AND RETENTION NOW APPEARS LIKELY. BEAM

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